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Cont Copy

editorial

A Beast with All Fours Trapped

RECENTLY, Jeune Afrique, *an African magazine, carried an interesting cartoon: Uncle Sam was shown first with one of his feet sunk in the Viet Nam morass; he then put his other foot into Laos only to have both feet mired. Finally to extricate himself from this tragic situation, he desperately leaned on Cambodia with his two hands and got bogged down neck-deep. Observers found this cartoon a truthful reflection of Nixon's present predicament in Indochina.*

As a matter of fact, Nixon is at his wit's end on this fine, rich and heroic peninsula. He has dragged on his war of aggression against South Viet Nam under the "Vietnamization" label, stepped up his "special war" against Laos and ventureSomely invaded Cambodia. He has been trying to secure a position of strength on the battlefield and to achieve neo-colonialism not only in South Viet Nam, but also in the whole of Indochina. He is experimenting his "Nixon doctrine" of pitting Indochinese against Indochinese and Asians against Asians. Hence his policy of war prolongation and expansion. But he is only indulging in daydreaming: how can he find a way out while he is rushing headlong into an impasse? Still heavier setbacks are awaiting him as he is relying on losing factors to avoid defeat.

FACTS have proved that the US "Vietnamization" program has met with new failures.

To Nixon's mind, puppet troops were to replace GIs in an attempt to "change the colour of the corpses" and reduce the difficulties confronting America, first and foremost cut down casualties and war expenditures. But one and a half years of "Vietnamization" has resulted not only in a longer list of puppet losses but also in a greater toll of American lives. According to incomplete statistics, in the past two months alone, 2,000 US-puppet targets came under attack, 38,000 enemy troops including 26,000 GIs were put out of action and a huge amount of war material destroyed. Meanwhile the South Vietnamese people living in enemy-occupied areas were ruthlessly exploited and the American people were imposed new kinds of taxes.

The backbone of Nixon's "Vietnamization" viz. the "pacification" program, has been quasi-broken. In a two-month wave of onslaughts and uprisings, the South Viet Nam people and armed forces dismantled en masse 50 per cent of all the "strategic hamlets" which had been painstakingly built and consolidated by the enemy within the framework of "Vietnamization."

As both components of this scheme, namely the planned replacement of GIs by puppet troops and "pacification," have flopped, there can be no future for the scheme itself. In announcing his "Vietnamization" policy, Nixon had taken care to state that this policy might not succeed. Now there is no doubt about its bankruptcy.

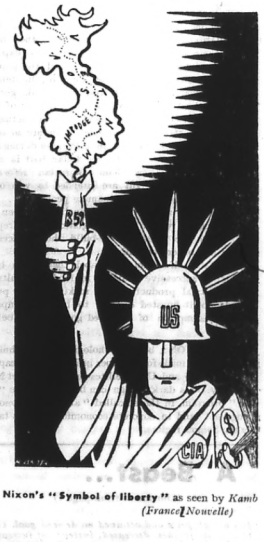
IN Laos, the "puppet troops+overwhelming firepower of USAF formula" which Nixon has endeavoured to put into effect through his intensification of the "special war" has turned out to be another unsuccess. The positions of both the US aggressors and their valets have not improved at all. The Lao people and armed forces have retaken their Xieng Khoang Plain of Jars area which had been illegally occupied by the enemy. They have successfully preserved and consolidated their liberated territories. Moreover they have freed new extensive areas including Attopeu, the Boloven Plateaux.

IN Cambodia, upon which Nixon laid his best hopes in opening a new front and in committing 100,000 GIs and Saigon puppet troops to an aggression against this "oasis of peace," the flames of a powerful war of resistance were kindled, to Nixon's great surprise. The Lon Nol – Sirik Matak clique of Cambodian reactionaries continued to be encircled and attacked from all quarters. The Phnom Penh regime has been tottering in spite of the assistance in troops and war material given them by the US and its Saigon followers. Since March 18, nearly 40,000 enemy troops were put out of action among them 12,000 GIs and Saigon troops. The Cambodian liberation fighters and people have liberated 3 townships, 53 district capitals and urban centres and hundreds of villages and hamlets with a population of over one million. In these extensive free areas, national union power has been set up. It is clear that the US war of aggression against Cambodia is unable to save either the Phnom Penh regime or Nixon's "Vietnamization" program.

The Nixon doctrine has thus met with a disastrous reverse. After having to "Americanize" his war of aggression in Cambodia, Mr Nixon now had to declare that American troops would be withdrawn by the end of June.

THE peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia are undoubtedly on an offensive and winning posture. The more the US imperialists prolong and spread the war, the more they are reduced to passivity, embarrassment and the more certain their eventual failure. They have been exerting all efforts, by their war prolongation and expansion, to tilt the balance of forces in their favour and to regain the initiative on the battlefield. But they have had to

(Continued on page 2)



Nixon's "Symbol of liberty" as seen by *Kamb (France Nouvelle)*

Will Uncle Sam extricate himself from the Indochina bog? *Jeune Afrique*

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SLUMP

An Inevitable Sequel of "Vietnamization"

WHILE numerous military, political and diplomatic setbacks befall the US-puppets, the enemy-controlled areas in South Viet Nam is facing a serious economic crisis. Industrial production has come to a near standstill, agriculture is going downhill, communication lines are constantly cut off, business is slack, the purchasing power of people of various walks of life is decreasing, daily necessaries show signs of an acute shortage, prices are skyrocketing and the people are finding it difficult to make both ends meet. The Saigon puppet administration's finance is in permanent straits with a huge budget deficit and its currency is rapidly depreciating.

Although the US has made every exertion to get the Saigon regime out of this state of things, the results obtained so far have been very poor. The possibilities of affluent America are not unlimited. Moreover, pursuing their obdurate policy of war prolongation and expansion in spite of their repeated setbacks, they are compelled to strain their economy and finance, with expenditures to "Vietnamize" the war.

On the one hand, the Americans are for the consolidation of economic bases in the area under their control. They are trying to exploit to the maximum local resources to feed the puppet army of mercenaries in the hope of, lightening their own war burden and limiting the dangerous impact of the Viet Nam war on the economy of the United States. On the other hand, they are actuated by a desire to strangle the people's economy so as to deny all supplies to the patriots. Parallel demagogic policies are put into effect: the dollar bait is used to buy consciences; a sham "agrarian reform" and various forms of aid are intended to win over the hearts of the South Vietnamese people.

With this in mind, the US-puppets have been endeavouring to restore their logistic bases, repair their main life lines and re-build their offices in Saigon and other townships.

Under the self-sufficiency label they have been producing successive projects in food, agricultural and industrial production, and making a noisy propaganda about boosted exports to balance imports while consumption of imported goods is to be restricted.

PREPARATIONS, both psychological and technical, are being made for a deeper infiltration of capital of the US and US satellites into South Viet Nam economy. This dark design can be seen in the "US aid" program, in the so-called "after-war economic program" and in concrete economic measures taken by the Saigon regime.

According to AID or the US Agency for International Development, American aid is meant to develop post war economy, apart from its other known goals (USIS, Dec. 10, 1969). Consequently, under the "aid" signboard, the US is paving the way for the eventual investment of its capital in South Viet Nam and its economic foothold there.

In their "after-war economic program", the US puppets have joined hands with capitalist groups in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan... in a bid to jointly control South Viet Nam economy. This program is in fact one to assault South Viet Nam with economic means, by a "neo-colonialist economic policy." Such is, in the long run, the American aim in South Viet Nam. "This is a program which makes us dependent, and offends us as a nation", (Nguyen Ngoc De, of the "Viet Nam Peasants' Federation").

The Saigon puppet regime has in fact issued a "war insurance law," it has transferred gradually the (puppet) State-managed economic enterprises to private capitalists (mainly foreign capitalists). New economic projects have been made public and some already put into execution. A new bill is under preparation which provides for facilities for the influx of foreign capital into South Viet Nam.

Though the US-puppets have such crafty designs upon the economy and finance of South Viet Nam, they are indeed relying on broken reeds. The moribund economy of South Viet Nam's enemy-controlled area has always had to depend upon American "aid" for its survival. Now it is further weakened as a result of the "Vietnamization of the war" program which puts on it a still heavier burden.

IN implementation of the US plan to "change the colour of the corpses," the Saigon puppets have contemplated beefing up their troop strength by 100,000 men. In order to feed these soldiers and to meet other requirements of "Vietnamization," the Thieu-Ky-Khiem triumvirate had to increase their war budget from 111 billion South Vietnamese piastres in 1968 to 145.6 billion in 1969; an estimate for fiscal year 1970 has put it at the record figure of 177.8 billion. For 1970 alone, they requested from their American bosses an allowance of 450 million dollars, but owing to economic and financial difficulties at home, the Washington rulers gave them only partial satisfaction. Moreover, the American masters wanted to take advantage of the opportunity and use "aid" as a means of pressure on their valets. "Aid" is thus to be granted by dribblets and tends to decrease gradually: while in 1967 it made up 33 per cent of the puppet budget, it represented only 23.4 per cent in 1968; 17.2 per cent in 1969 and will go down to 14.4 per cent only in fiscal year 1970. This downward trend is also clear for instance, in these two items: "Commercialized aid" and aid under the "Food for Peace" program: from 730 million dollars in 1966-67, it dropped to 601 million in 1967-68; 498 million in 1968-69 and the figure will sink to 400 million in fiscal year 1969-70 (1). As a result, the puppet budget continually shows big deficits: 43.5 billion South Viet Nam piastres in 1969 — and 52 billion in the coming budget for 1970 according to official estimates. But, as a matter of fact, by the end of April 1970, the deficit reached already 90 billion and by the end of May 1970, it may run to 100 billion (AFP, April 30, 1970). In an effort to fill the gap, the Saigon administration has issued a huge amount of bank-notes, thus considerably swelling the amount of currency in circulation: from 6 billion South Viet Nam piastres in 1955, it rose to 130 billion in Nov. 1969 and 150 billion in April 1970, and according to estimates for 1970 and 1971, it will hit respectively the 230 billion and 350 billion marks. The pressure of inflation is growing while the South Vietnamese piastre is seriously depreciating. The dollar piastre rate at the black market has been soaring: from 185 piastres to one dollar in June 1969, it rose to 320 in December 1969, and to 472 in May 1970, that is four times the official exchange rate, and an all-time high. Although until the beginning of 1970, Nguyen Van Thieu and his ilk never ceased to brag of their decision never to devaluate the piastre, they were recently compelled to ask the "National Assembly" for the permission to decree partial devaluation when necessary, as other economic measures had proved of no avail. Moreover, they are plotting a "currency reform" with a view to solving their serious financial crisis, an inevitable sequel of "Vietnamization." Since the times of Ngo Dinh Diem, the Saigon puppet regime has more than once devaluated its currency and consequently the possibility of a new devaluation is not to be ruled out.

ANH KIET and DINH TRONG

(To be continued)

(1) *McDonald Report to Bunker (USIS Nos. 18, 1969 and Radio Saigon January 7, 1970.)*

A Beast...

(Continued from page 1)

pay a high price and attained no desired goal. Their forces have further decreased, instead of increasing as they had dreamt, as a result of the enlargement of the battlefield. Their political situation has worsened. Their international position has lowered visibly.

Caught on the horns of a dilemma and between the devil and the deep sea, plagued moreover by an economic slump at home and growing dissensions within their ruling circles, they are like a beast with all fours trapped.

The peoples of Indo-China are irresistibly heading for final victory. The impact of the Joint Declaration of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference — the common anti - US program of the three countries — has begun to be felt. The militant solidarity of the 50 million Indochinese is a source of invincible strength. With their persevering efforts, the three Indochinese peoples' triumph is left in no doubt.

SOUTH VIET NAM

A new life is flourishing in SVN liberated areas:

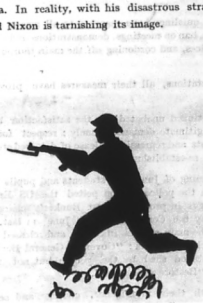
A village reading-room.

NIXON'S WILD DREAM OF A MILITARY VICTORY IN INDOCHINA

FOR nearly a year and a half in office, President Nixon has done everything in his power to protract and extend the war throughout Indochina. His strategic blunders have been at the bottom of the US expeditionary troops' successive setbacks.

1. FIASCO OF BIG-STICK-POLITICS

Relying on a large force of aggression equipped with sophisticated weapons, Nixon has been nurturing the hope of a military victory on the battlefield. He has been claiming that the Viet Cong "backbone has been broken" while professing to seek peace through a political solution, and to rule out the recourse to a military solution for the settlement of the Vietnamese problem, etc... With great pride he has kept on emphasizing the power of the United States. Stubbornly and recklessly he has been pursuing aggression in South Viet Nam at the same time as the USAF have been bombarding the DRVN and violating its territorial waters and airspace. On the other hand, he has escalated the war in Laos in a bid to encroach on the liberated zone, and on April 30, as President of the US and C-in-C. of its forces, he ordered the invasion of Cambodia. Unmistakably, Richard Nixon wanted *to submit the Indochinese peoples by armed violence*. In fact, he has bumped against an insuperable people's war and been bound to deal not with some hundred thousand "Viet Cong" and "Lao and Cambodian Communists," but fifty million Indochinese. US modern war means, especially armour, artillery and air force, in which he placed high hopes, did not find a favourable terrain in the hills, forests and swamps of Indochina. All the more so as they have had to operate in the "sea" of guerilla warfare. US economic potential with which Nixon feeds native armies for the implementation of the doctrine bearing his own name, has enabled him just to maintain a double-edged instrument. The "clear and hold" strategy has proved as ineffective as the ill-fated "search and destroy" strategy, its predecessor. Lyndon B. Johnson who made extensive use of the strength of the US in the "limited war" in South Viet Nam admitted bitterly that this strength could not force the world to act in accordance with the US desire. Instead of learning the Johnson lesson, Nixon has been sticking to his policy of force, and getting ever more obdurate and adventuresome. Playing upon the American people's feelings, he demagogically stated that he would not let the US act like a defeated giant, that he wanted to save the honour of the United States of America. In reality, with his disastrous strategy, Richard Nixon is tarnishing its image.



2. INITIAL FAILURE OF "VIETNAMIZATION"

Nixon has set his face against the 10-point overall solution put forward by the National Front for Liberation and the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government at the quadripartite Paris Conference. He has deliberately downgraded the talks and schemed to wreck them. *His "Vietnamization" program aims at nothing but prolonging the war.* He thinks that Johnson's "de-Americanization" just laid stress on the pull-out of US troops whereas his "Vietnamization" is to make Saigon forces stronger than the "Communists."

It is his belief that the realization of the "Vietnamization" plan will allow him to unilaterally provide a solution to the war, whatever the results of the Paris Conference. For over a year, he has been concentrating on the implementation of the said plan and displayed undue optimism over the "progress" made by the Saigon army and the "pacification" program. He thought that the Liberation forces had met with innumerable difficulties and been worn down. However, widespread offensives of the PLAF in April and May put out of action almost 90,000 US and puppet troops—a devastating blow at "Vietnamization." Contrary to Nixon's expectations, US troops, Senator Fulbright pointed out in Congress on December 8 last year, had paid a monthly toll twice as heavy as under the Johnson administration. As to the Saigon army, the French paper *Le Figaro* (Aug. 25, 1969) said that its kill ratio was 3 to 1 in comparison with the GIs and that its ability to replace the latter was just a cheat. In "pacification," the network of "strategic hamlets" has been seriously impaired—50 per cent up to the early days of April demolished. That the "Vietnamization" plan will fail is a foregone conclusion and the process of its collapse will be accelerated by that of the US troop withdrawal. Clearly, *Nixon's blunders are leading him into a blind alley.*

Like Johnson, Nixon made a mistake in underrating the capabilities of his opponent and indulged in wishful thinking in evaluating the relation of forces on the battlefield. His predecessor could at least rely on a massive build-up whereas he found himself compelled to operate cutbacks in troops to placate American opinion. To everyone's knowledge such an error is capital in the conduct of warfare, and it will inevitably be the cause of his doom.

3. ESCALATION IN LAOS FRUSTRATED

To give a prop to "Vietnamization" program, Nixon has stepped up "special warfare" in Laos and incursions into the liberated areas, in complete disregard of American and world opinion, and in flagrant violation of the 1962 Agreement on Laos. With 50 battalions of native troops and Thailand mercenaries, but commanded, equipped and supported from the air by the Americans — Nixon ordered a large-scale attack on the liberated zone and occupied the Plain of Jars. He hoped he could use this as a spring-board to strike at the free areas, threaten the security of North Viet Nam, attract and spread thin the "Communist forces," and cut off the "Viet Cong" supply routes. Nixon thus made another blunder, for he ran his head against a solid zone leaning against a socialist state. His formula being: native infantry + US firepower, Nixon relied on Lao mercenaries, more particularly on Vang Pao's bandit forces maintained by the CIA, in his scheme to gnaw at the territories controlled by the patriotic forces. Hard pressed by the latter, those battalions of mercenaries fled helter-skelter in spite of a tremendous US air support involving a daily average of 750 sorties, B-52s included (USIS, Feb. 1, 1970). Result: in two weeks of February the patriotic forces recovered almost all the areas illegally occupied by Vientiane troops. American information sources termed this staggering reverse of Nixon, who escalated from a defensive position, as a "military stupidity". The *New York Times* (Feb. 24) described it as a serious experiment of the Nixon doctrine on US commitment abroad. The failure of American escalation in Laos points at the same time to the inevitable failure of "Vietnamization" in South Viet Nam.

4. INVASION OF CAMBODIA CHECKED

Beaten in Laos and waist-deep in the South Viet Nam quagmire, Nixon invaded Cambodia, thus embarking upon a new adventure in Indochina. Thinning out US and Saigon troops and deploying them in an unfamiliar war theatre, he committed, as the *Sunday Times* (May 10) put it, a gross miscalculation. The American President asserted that the operation was aimed at the "Viet Cong's sanctuary," logistical bases and topmost organs. He particularly tried to back up his June 3 speech with figures on matériel seized and pictured the invasion as a most successful operation. Western correspondents on the field said it had yielled "minor results", because "the Americans face increasing shooting"; the rainy season has already started, and "the Viet Cong's supply dumps, if any, are located afar." According to the FUNK Information Bureau, nearly 40,000 US and puppet troops have been put out of action so far, including 12,000 of the US expeditionary forces and Saigon army in May. This is reminiscent of the large-scale operation, *Junction City* which proved a disaster for the Americans in 1967. *The Nixon doctrine gave the first proof of its unsoundness in Cambodia a little more than a month after it was put into practice, for its author himself had to "Americanize" the aggressive war in this country.*

If political setbacks have more critically estranged the US from the rest of the world, blunders in military strategy have driven it into a blind alley. At the present juncture in Indo-China, Nixon's scheme to stab in the back of the revolution to turn the tide, is a fantastic notion. Wishful thinking, recklessness and obstinacy will only make bad worse for him.

THANH HONG

The Politic-al Front

TO bring "Vietnamization" to fruition at any cost, as from the start of 1970, the Americans and their puppets in Saigon have been chasing the "pacification" wild goose with every cruel, machiavellian means at their command. If, however, all their war efforts have been frustrated, all their political dodgings have proved of no avail. In many of the priority "pacification" areas, such as around Saigon, Da Nang, and Hue, and several provinces of the lowlands in Central Trung Bo and of the highlands in South Trung Bo, all of these traversed by strategic Highways Nos 1, 4 and 9, a fierce struggle has been on for control. The stubborn determination of the people in the said areas has held in check the enemy's attempt. In 1969, the latter built some hundred new "strategic hamlets" and "refugee camps" whereas those dismantled by the masses rose to thousands and the liberated areas kept on expanding. In a recent report, the *New York Times* (June 3, 1970) revealed that no steady progress had been achieved in "pacification." In the last few months substantial successes have on the contrary been scored by the population in breaking the adversary's grip and simultaneously extending the control of the territory by the people's power, which has permitted to further consolidate the bases of the revolution. On May 1, 10,000 people in Rach Gia province - herded into "strategic hamlets" between Xeo Ro canal and the river Cai Lon rose up, destroyed puppet administrative organs, duly punished wicked thugs and returned to their native places. In early April, 8,200 people from several nationalities penned up in 33 hamlets in Darlac staged well-coordinated actions, wiped out 56 wicked agents (including a major, the provincial psywar service chief), burnt down 4 offices, 2 information halls, hundreds of "national flags" and proclaimed the establishment of the local people's revolutionary power. Political gains have made it possible to strengthen the revolutionary power from the grassroots up to the central levels. Now elected bodies are functioning in 44 provinces and cities, 150 provincial and district capitals and 1,500 villages. There is a government representative's office in Central Trung Bo.

In the urban areas, especially in such large cities as Saigon, Hue, Da Nang, Can Tho, a widespread, continuous and ebullient movement has been developing, involving all social strata. Carried out under diverse forms, it has been credited with far-reaching results. Braving fascist repression, the urban population have been resolutely denouncing systematic violations of democratic freedoms, prosecution of the war by the Americans and the Saigon ruling junta, the Lon Nol—Sirik Matak clique's crimes against Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia, etc. Meetings, teach-ins and demonstrations were held for the replacement of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration, the formation of a coalition government, serious negotiations with the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government, and pull out of US troops. Remarkable have been the increasingly nationalist character of the movement, its fierceness, solidarity and close co-ordinateness in action. Nguyen Van Thieu has of late publicly expressed concern over such developments: "If we don't properly cope with the situation, we may lose because of the political chaos in our rear." (Radio Saigon, May 8).

The workers' protest was started on a large-scale this year by dockers, employees in the transportation branch and at the American RMK company.

Its most significant outbursts have been the general strike on Jan. 7 of 70,000 Saigon employees of 118 trade-unions to support the 600 bus drivers' which held up a dozen US military transports and brought other branches of activity in the city to a standstill.

An open conflict erupted towards the end of February and lasted 16 days over a 100 per cent increase in the price of newsprint. Backed by a large section of Saigon workers and office employees it forced the administration to cancel this arbitrary measure.

The drawn-out action of university and middle-school students against repression and for the release of their illegally arrested comrades is still on. Beginning in March, it has enlisted the support of the press, Buddhists, war invalids and other social sections, even members of the Saigon Parliament. It has greatly embarrassed and utterly isolated the puppet authorities.

The Buddhists' drive for an end to the war has been revived. It climaxed on the occasion of Buddha's birth anniversary (May 12), marked by hunger-strikes for peace in Saigon, requiems at Darlac for the Vietnamese nationals massacred in Cambodia, and demonstrations and marches in Hue and Da Nang.

Turmoil in the urban areas has aggravated the instability of the enemy's rear. Combined with the mounting opposition of the rural population, it has given a vigorous fillip to the South Vietnamese people's political bids for power, and created favourable conditions for the PLAF to strike at nerve centres of the American aggressors and their henchmen in their very last sanctuaries.

In the above-described factions the population both in the rural and urban areas, have made it a point to win over officers and men of the puppet army. Enlightened on the US intention to protract the war by "changing the colour of the corpses" and the Saigon ruling clique's total subservience to their US masters, an increasing number of soldiers have changed sides. In the provincial capital of Quang Ngai, 4 civil guard companies — 600 men — were disbanded in April and May. In Ben Tre, 1,528 men of the 7th Division defected in January and February and went back to their villages. In many cases, soldiers set afire war supply dumps, even killed their die-hard commanders, before leaving their ranks.

The above facts provide an eloquent illustration of the steady progress of the political movement of the South Vietnamese people, which will help change the relation of forces in favour of the latter to the detriment of the US-puppets. It is likely that the predicament of these will only worsen.

PHAN HUU

What Will Be Shall Be

THIEU and Ky are a pair of traitors to the Fatherland. They may temporarily put aside their quarrels and show some pretence of "mutual understanding" just to please their common masters. But hard facts are always there to prove that the antagonism between them is irreconcilable.

Everyone knows that Ky is a general without troops, all his followers having been discarded by Thieu. For quite a long time he was in the shade moaning his fate and ruminating his revenge.

A golden opportunity was offered to him when the US invaded Cambodia. Ky was seen busy preparing to fish in troubled waters. His plan was to play an active role in the Cambodian affair and to make political capital out of it.

But Thieu seemed to have seen through his crafty plan. As President of the Saigon regime, Thieu has made it a point to consolidate his lottering seat. He therefore refused to give Ky a blank cheque in Cambodia, especially in military matters. An aide of his, Major-General Nguyen Van Manh, was soon dispatched to Phnom Penh to serve as a "liaison commissar" in charge of large-scale military operations, apparently to watch Ky's activities.

And so after visiting the Khmer capital city, Ky returned with his tail between his legs to Saigon. There he had to call on Thieu at the President's house for a formal report about what he had done in Cambodia. The limit of humiliation! So he stoically swallowed his pride, but one wonders how long he can do so. As for Thieu, would he allow Ky to hatch one plot after another against him?

The time will certainly come for a showdown between US-installed "President" and "Vice-President".

Diamond Cut Diamond

THE drive ignited in March last by the students and pupils has been gaining in momentum to the great alarm of the US and its lackeys Thieu-Ky.

To stamp it out, the Saigon quislings have resorted to all means such as repression, arrest of the students, ban on meetings, demonstrations and marches and pickets of administrative offices, and cordoning off the main thoroughfares and Bunker's headquarters.

But contrary to their expectations, all their measures have proved futile.

The student unrest has continued unabated for the satisfaction by the Saigon administration of their legitimate demands namely : respect for freedom and democracy, halt to arrests and repression, release of detained students, end of US war of aggression and re-establishment of peace.

At the end of May and beginning of June, the students and pupils riding one hundred motor cycles through the police cordon pelted the US Embassy with rotten tomatoes and addle eggs in protest against Bunker's charge that their action had been instigated by the Communists. On June 11 last, they staged a similar action through the main streets in Saigon and released about one hundred balloons bearing such slogans as : "Governor General Bunker go home", "There are limits to the blood shed by the people but not to the engines of death of the US" and "Restore peace now".

Diamond cut diamond. With their intelligence, courage and sense of purpose, the SVN students and pupils are worthy children of the SVN people.

PLAF'S REMARKABLE EXPLOITS

According to still incomplete reports, in last **April** and **May**, the PLAF and people in South Viet Nam:

★ **struck at more than 2,000 military targets;**

★ **put out of action 88,000 US-puppet and mercenary troops (more than 26,000 GIs) including 41 battalion-sized units and more than 50 HQs of battalions, regiments, divisions or army corps. 2 US generals were killed in action, 1 US general and 1 colonel heavily wounded;**

★ **brought down or destroyed on the ground more than 900 aircraft;**

★ **destroyed or damaged nearly 2,000 military vehicles including 1,100 tanks and armoured cars...;**

★ **dealt stunning blows at the US-puppets' plan for "pacification" in the rural areas;**

★ **pulled down half of enemy "strategic hamlets" or concentration camps.**

LAOS:

Xieng Khoang: 600 Enemy troops Put out of Action in Two Battles

ACCORDING to KPL, on June 3, 1970 the Lao patriotic armed forces and people in Xieng Khoang province attacked the enemy in the Lung Mat mountain area, 10 kilometres north of Sam Thong, putting out of action 143 enemy troops.

The Lao patriotic forces razed to the ground the Lung Mat position, and seized or destroyed a large quantity of weapons and military equipment, the agency added.

On June 4, 1970 the patriotic armed forces and people in Xieng Khoang province assaulted by surprise a US-fostered battalion, 5 kilometres northeast of Sam Thong. After a few minutes' fighting, the patriotic forces put out of action 243 enemy troops, and seized or destroyed a large quantity of military equipment.

Earlier, from May 27 to June 1st, 1970, in engagements with the enemy 10 kilometres northeast of Sam Thong, the Lao patriotic armed forces killed nearly 110 enemy troops and wounded dozens of others. The colonel chief of the puppet administrative office in the 3rd military sector was injured while he was making an inspection tour of this region.

CAMBODIA:

34,000 Enemy Troops Wiped Out in May

ACCORDING to the Information Bureau of the National United Front of Kampuchea, the Cambodian National Liberation Army last May killed, wounded, or captured more than 12,000 US and Saigon troops including over 3,000 GIs.

In terms of units they wiped out or heavily trounced 8 battalions of US and Saigon puppet infantry or armoured forces. They destroyed more than 800 military vehicles, half of them tanks or armoured cars, shot down nearly 100 war planes and seized thousands of firearms and a large quantity of other military equipment.

In the period under review, the CNLA put out of action or heavily decimated 26 battalions of the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak forces including 22,000 men put out of combat.

From March 18 to the end of May the armed forces and people of Cambodia put out of combat nearly 40,000 enemy troops. In terms of units they knocked out, heavily depleted or routed 2 brigades, 36 battalions including 8 US and Saigon battalions and many headquarters from military subsector to army corps level.

They seized tens of thousands of firearms and thousands of tons of ammunition, destroyed nearly 1,000 military vehicles half of them tanks and armoured cars, and hundreds of heavy guns or mortars, set ablaze many supply complexes and brought down nearly 100 aircraft.

The liberation forces and people liberated 3 provincial capitals, 53 district towns or military subsectors, and hundreds of villages or hamlets inhabited by millions of people. At the same time, they enlightened tens of thousands of officers and soldiers, and policemen including dozens of companies or battalions of the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique who quit their ranks or joined the National Liberation Army.

In Kompong Cham and Svay Rieng provinces where the US and Saigon puppets mustered big forces to launch armed aggression against Cambodia, 8,200 US and Saigon puppet troops were put out of combat including 7 battalions of Saigon puppet infantry or armoured troops and one US armoured battalion.

US invasion of Cambodia and US aggressive crimes against Khmer civilians and Viet Nam residents

"Uncle, Take Care of Yourself!"

I liked to drop in on Sam. She lived at H., a small hamlet with beautiful scenery, sweet "ly" trellises, shady lanes, lots of people and nice pretty and lovable children. I was particularly fond of little Son, a boy under five whom I got to know after stopping many times at Sam's. Son was lovely. When he sang, he beat time with his plump hands. He knew many songs among them the NFL song: "Let us liberate the South!"

Everytime I took him in my arms, a dialogue began between us.

"Whose son are you?", I asked.

"I am the son of father and mother," he answered.

"Whose nephew are you?"

"Uncle Ho's, and also the Liberation fighters'".

"Who do you hate?"

"The US aggressor. And the clique of traitors Thieu-Ky-Khiem."

We always ended with the song: "Let us liberate the South."

Once, as we finished singing it, Son said to me:

"Uncle, Uncle, let's sing 'The round moon'!"

I started for that was a song from North Viet-Nam.

"How is it that you know this song?" I asked.

He answered:

"I learnt it yesterday's evening over Radio Hanoi. My friends of the North sing very well, you know."

Like an opera tenor, he swelled out his chest:

"Who loves Uncle Ho more than we, children of Viet Nam?..."

But he soon stopped short in the middle of a phrase, forgetting what followed. I could not help him on. He said to me:

"Please, uncle, when possible, give me the words of the song. Teach me also how to dance..."

"Don't forget," he added reproachingly, "you absent-minded uncle!"

ONE day, I happened to visit H. hamlet again. I had not forgotten my promise. Unfortunately, nobody had been able to give me the words of the song.

As he saw me from the distance, Son ran to me shouting:

"Uncle Trung! Uncle Trung!"

I took him in my arms. He started chatting about NFL fighters, the shooting down of a US plane by a woman guerrilla, the people's counter-raids, and what not. An idea flashed into his mind. He said to me:

"Uncle, daddy caught a fish as big as my thigh. He gave half of it to a sick NFL fighter who was going through our hamlet yesterday. There is still the other half. Please come and eat it with us!"

"Yesterday", the boy added, "I heard Uncle Ho's voice over the radio. Impossible to see him! I say, how about the song: 'Who loves Uncle Ho more than we children of Viet Nam?' And, 'The round moon'..." With a guilty conscience, I stammered out an apology.

As I was carrying Son to the yard of Sam's house, a distant drone of planes was heard. Sam shouted to me:

"Give me Son and get quickly into shelter. They have been getting at us these last few days."

As I ran for cover, I still heard Son's words:

"Uncle, take care of yourself."

American jets turned up screaming. There were deafening rumbles of bombs.

"Look out, Sam!", I shouted to Sam from my shelter. "They are dropping napalm..."

My voice was drowned in smoke and dust.

Seconds and minutes slowly passed by. A quarter of an hour later the rampageous US planes disappeared.

I jumped out of my shelter. The hamlet lay before me in charred, smoking ruins. I moved rapidly among hot bomb craters and dead bodies to look for Sam and Son. Sam was there, alive. But the child she was carrying in her arms was hit in the breast by a splinter. He was dead! I could not believe my eyes.

Fifteen minutes before, he was still chatting away with me, told me to take care of myself. And now he was no more! He died on a day of May when the "flames of the forest" were glowing with flowers and the small hamlet was preparing for the birth anniversary of Uncle Ho.

That night, I remained at H. to clear away the ruins and bury 80 dead, most of them women and children. I took no food and hardly slept a wink. I stared with sorrow at Son's dish of fish. With tears in her eyes, Sam cursed the assassins. H., Son's father, looked into the pitch dark night with flashing eyes.

DUY PHUONG

They say they are "Allies"

PLAYING TEXAS COW-BOYS

A Saigon policeman was a powerless and indignant eye-witness of the following scene:

South Vietnamese sergeant Phu riding a Suzuki was moping along National Highway No 19, a road of ill fame for it lay near several major American bases when he was overtaken by a truck crammed with GI's. Fancying perhaps they were in Texas, a few American soldiers threw lassoes and caught the sergeant, dragging him some hundred metres. The poor man died, leaving a wife and four children.

WHO SOWS THE WIND REAPS THE WHIRLWIND

Puppet lieutenant-colonel Cau who killed two members of the American Military Police has become the talk of the town. Of course this officer can not be suspected of anti-Americanism since he belongs to the pet units of the "ARVN" (Army of the Republic of Viet Nam), the paratroops.

One night, he went to Thap Nga Restaurant, a fashionable R and R (Rest and Recreation) place in Saigon.

Two American MP's turned up, and playfully slit open with knives the dress of a waitress. The girl, suddenly stripped to the skin, cried for help before horrified customers.

Fearing that such an incident would embitter the relations "between the Vietnamese and their dear allies," the lieutenant-colonel tried to bring home to the MP's its psychological consequences. A toast seemed to bring about reconciliation. But one of the two MP's called in some mates. A short tussle ensued and the colonel hit in his leg shot two MP's dead.

"Who sows the wind reaps the whirlwind," the Saigon press commeated.

Letters from OUR READERS

Mme MAYNAU, Professor, Le Désert, 83 Seine sur Mer, FRANCE.

A "Committee of Support to the Struggle of the Vietnamese People" has just been set up in our school. Our aim is to acquaint as many people as possible with the reality of the struggle which unfolds in your country.

To reach many people we would like to have documents to disseminate around us: pamphlets, reviews, posters, etc...

BERTIL LINNER, Helsinggersdsvagen 13e, Fajun, SWEDEN.

I am a member of the "Swedish Solidarity Organisation for Viet Nam", and I have got your paper "South Viet Nam in Struggle" and I liked it very much. Now I wonder if you have more information and propaganda material, for example posters, badges and pins, poster books, pamphlets? If you have, send me examples of such things.

PICAVET CAMILLE, Brussels, BELGIUM.

The paper is excellent. It is read in many households.

7, THE CORNER, Grange Road, LONDON, W.5. ENGLAND.

The columns and lay-out are excellent.

"South Viet Nam in Struggle" is an important link and involves readers in the struggle which you are waging, and in which all decent people are deeply involved. Copies once read are then passed on to others.

G. LEMEE, Clair Logis Street 2, 27 GISORS (FRANCE)

As a French militant communist, you must realize how dear to me the cause of the South Viet Nam NFL is! Your cause is ours, and that of any man in love with justice and liberty. One day, the NFL will surely gain victory over imperialism.

In the world, the great masses of people stand up to defend Viet Nam's cause. For my part, I participate in the action of one section of the "National Committee for Support and Victory of the Vietnamese People" in a little provincial city. Therefore I request you to send me, if possible, your magazine "South Viet Nam in Struggle" and other documents connected with South Viet Nam NFL's struggle.

JUNE 6th IN THE WORLD

ON the occasion of the founding anniversary of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the Party and State leaders of many countries sent messages of greeting to Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, and Architect Huynh Tan Phat, President of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. The parties, governments, mass organizations, committees of solidarity and support to Viet Nam have held meetings or given receptions to commemorate this achievement of the South Vietnamese people. The presence of many Party and State leaders, heads of mass organizations, social organizations, members of the diplomatic corps and large crowds at these gatherings evidenced the deep sympathy of the world's peoples with the South Vietnamese. At those meetings and receptions and in the messages from Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, Prince Souphanouvong, Chairman of the Lao Patriotic Front, from the State leaders and heads of various organizations of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Cuba, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Albania, Bulgaria, Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Algeria, Syria, the United Arab Republic, the Republic of Congo, Guinea, the "great successes recorded in the past year by the South Vietnamese people in their sacred struggle for their right to be masters, waged under the leadership of the South Viet Nam NFL and the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam" were glorified. They have "greatly inspired and impelled the anti-imperialist struggle of the world's peoples," and "given a wealth of experience to the liberation movement of the oppressed peoples," and the RSVN has "become now unquestionably the bulwark of the liberation of the world."

After strongly condemning the US imperialists for prolonging their aggressive war in South Viet Nam, committing provocative acts against the DRVN, stepping up the war in Laos and bringing it to Cambodia, all these leaders have voiced their respective peoples' solidarity with, and support for, the righteous struggle of the South Vietnamese people for national independence and freedom; they have demanded that the US imperialists put an end to their aggressive war, withdraw unconditionally all their troops and those of their satellites from South Viet Nam and the rest of Indo-China and expressed the firm conviction that in the new situation in Indo-China, the South Vietnamese, led by the South Viet Nam NFL and the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam, will strike harder at the US imperialists, entirely liberate the country and, together with the Cambodian and Lao peoples, sweep the US aggressors out of the Indo-Chinese peninsula.

Feeling warm sympathy with the South Vietnamese, the world's peoples commemorated June 6th in various ways. Tens of thousands of people in the socialist and nationalist countries visited exhibitions showing the achievements of the South Vietnamese people in the fighting and in production, or saw Vietnamese films. The film-show organized in Damascus from May 31st to June 6th, 1970 by the Ministry of Culture and the Cinematographic Department of Syria was quite a hit. On the same occasion, the Radio and TV section and the press in Algeria, United Arab Republic, Guinea and other countries have broadcast special programs and run articles foreseeing the inevitable victory of the South Vietnamese people and failure of the US imperialists and their lackeys in South Viet Nam and foretelling that these will finally meet with their doom in South Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos. Especially, in the German Democratic Republic, a collection of money was organized and the first results of activities in favour of Viet Nam were made known in many workshops, factories and schools.

The occasion has supplied the world's peoples with a fresh opportunity to display their sympathy with, and support for, the South Viet Nam NFL, the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the South Vietnamese people. Once again, the image of the NFL and PRG has gained added lustre in the international arena. All this stimulates the South Vietnamese people to rush forward in the wake of their successes and defeat completely the US aggressors and overthrow the Thieu-Ky-Khiem traitorous clique. Again we sincerely thank our friends in the five continents for their warm sympathy and wholehearted support.

Swedish demonstrators displaying watchwords:
— "Recognize the RSVN — PRG"
— "Break off at once relations with Thieu-Ky puppets."

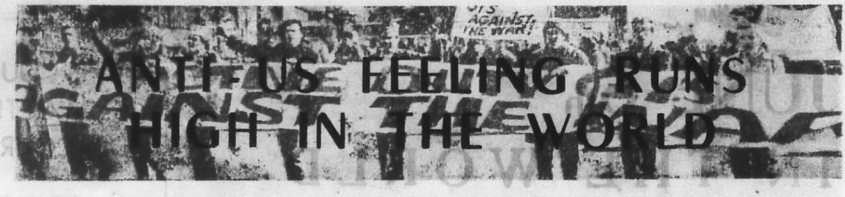
IT IS JUST A MATTER OF COURSE

Of late, *Le Courrier Phnom-penhnois*, the official mouthpiece of the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique, was not sparing of praise to one of the regime's "distinguished guests", calling him as a "matchless statesman", an "excellent diplomat", a "wonderful fighter" who has "a glib tongue and a lofty philosophy."

There was no more flattering description. All the finest words of the French language have been lavishly used to extol the man to the skies. But who was that man, that "strong man" so eulogistically referred to by the Lon Nol-Matak clique?

He was nobody else than Nguyen Cao Ky, vice-president of the "Second Republic of Viet Nam", the infamous placeman of the French colonialists yesterday and of the American imperialists today. Our people know him as a fire-eating traitor who boisterously clamoured for a March on the North" and "Liberation of Hanoi", threatened to unleash his planes against North Viet Nam while the USAF was biting the dust there. The American people have grown sick of that "superman" nicknamed Uncle Sam's "Little man" by American Congressmen. As for the world's peoples, he is known to them as "Hitler's disciple", in which position he has been taking great pride.

"Though it was the first time we met, we instantly took a liking to each other." Birds of the same feather flock together. As men selling out their respective countries for dollars, it was a matter of course that Lon Nol-Sirik Matak, new-comers, should admire Nguyen Cao Ky, who has been in the trade for a long time? It was just a matter of course.



IN two months of war escalation to the whole of Indochina, the US imperialists have thrown into the holocaust thousands of American youths, aggravated US predicament and came under fire from all corners of the world.

At a time when human conscience was wide awake, when people were still shocked by, and strongly critical of, US countless savage crimes in the aggressive war against South Viet Nam, Nixon's move constituted an intolerable challenge to progressive mankind. Once again the bellicosity and wickedness of the ringleader imperialism was bared. Opposition to the Nixon Administration has been indignantly displayed everywhere.

From all parts of the Soviet Union, China, People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Germany, Cuba... the voices of over one billion builders of socialism determinedly siding with their Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao brothers and sisters have been raised against Nixon's new challenge. The press conference by the Chairman of the Soviet Union Council of Ministers Kosygin and the Statement of May 20, 1970 by Chairman Mao Tsetung served severe warnings on the US imperialists. In their resolutions, declarations and statements, the governments and peoples of the socialist countries have sternly condemned the US imperialists' aggression and crimes in Cambodia, urged an immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of US and satellite troops from Indochina, and pledged their full support and assistance to the fraternal peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia in their struggle against US aggression for national salvation until comp.ete victory.

IN the capitalist countries, the working class and peoples through their Communist Parties have expressed their militant solidarity with the Indochinese peoples by energetic and concerted actions. Eighteen West European Communist Parties meeting in Paris on May 15, 1970 called on the European peoples to be vigilant in face of the US extension of the war throughout Indochina. The timely statements of the French, British, American, West German, Spanish, Greek and other Communist Parties have exposed Nixon's trickery in his aggression against Cambodia, demanded that their respective governments stop toeing the US line in its new adventure and appealed to the working class and peoples of their respective countries and in the world to unite and take vigorous actions to stop Nixon's bloody hand.

Workers, Youths, Students, Intellectuals, Religious Believers... participated in the drive and valiantly faced the brutal repression of their reactionary governments. Thirty-thousand Britishers gathered at Trafalgar Square to denounce the US crime of aggression and the Wilson Government's tailing after the United States. People spat at Stewart, British Foreign Secretary when the latter tried to plead for Uncle Sam. Two hundred and fifty thousand Frenchmen and Frenchwomen rushed to Vincennes (a Paris suburb) to protest against the US extension of the aggressive war to Cambodia. For ten days on end the US Embassy and US Information and Cultural Centres in West Germany were assaulted by demonstrators shouting : "Nixon, the war criminal, out of Southeast Asia !". In the ensuing scuffles with the protestors, nearly 500 policemen were injured.

In North Europe, greater masses of demonstrators assembled in front of US Embassies. In Copenhagen they numbered 15,000. A big meeting convened by 30 parties and organizations in Trondheim (Norway) to denounce US aggression against Cambodia and pass a resolution demanding that the Norwegian government recognize the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. A similar ebullience was witnessed in Canada, Switzerland and was widespread in Italy.

Indignation has also flared up in almost all US satellite countries like Japan, the Philippines, New Zealand and with unprecedented violence in Australia. Directly threatened by the US policy of aggression, the peoples of these countries have clearly realized that to throw in their lots with the fight for independence and freedom for the Indochinese peoples is to defend their own rights, which feeling inspired the three-day "Moratorium for Viet Nam" campaign involving hundreds of thousands of people throughout Australia. Thousands of Japanese students met to protest against the so-called *Asian Conference on Cambodia* and demonstrated at the airport against Foreign Minister Aichi leaving for Djakarta.

In view of this situation, those among the US allies and satellites who usually take up the cudgels for US imperialism dare not overtly support it. On the contrary, they pretend to show "concern" or express "regret" about this "escalation" of the conflict.

IN Asia, India and Pakistan are two countries in which the movement against US aggression has been most tenacious and vigorous especially in New Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Karachi, Dacca... Forty Indian deputies from various parties came out strongly against US aggression against Cambodia and called on the Indian government to take immediate steps to rouse world opinion against it.

The peoples of Africa, our brothers and sisters in the fight against imperialism and neo-colonialism for independence and freedom, took to the streets in great numbers for turbulent protest actions. The demonstrations of 30 parties and social org nizations in Mali, of South Yemen students, of Senegalese people, the letter of the Syrian Youths to U Thant, the statement of the Arab People's Liberation Front were at one in stigmatizing Nixon as the "gendarme who strangles freedom" and in supporting the struggle of the Indochinese peoples.

Latin America, the US "backyard," has been also rocked by the commotion of opponents to US aggression against Cambodia and extension of the war throughout Indochina. One million and a half Venezuelan students have gone on strike. Tens of thousands of Puerto-Rican youths staged anti-US demonstrations and threatened draft resistance. Colombian workers and students have set up a "Patriotic League Against (US) Imperialist War in Indochina." The peoples of Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile... have also unequivocally displayed their strong feeling against the US aggressors in various ways last month.

IN the history of the United States, never has the US image been so dim. This foreboles that US imperialists' stubbornness in extending their aggressive war will aggravate their difficulties not only in Indochina and in the United States, but in the world.

DAI LIEN

A Priceless Support

ON June 8 and 9, 1970, at its preparatory meeting for the 7th Congress of the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) to be held at the beginning of 1971, the Presidium of the IOJ Executive Committee issued an appeal to the world's journalists to intensify their actions against US aggressive policy in Indochina and in favour of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

It has decided to take the 20th of December 1970 — 10th founding anniversary of the NFL — as the greatest International Day of Solidarity with Viet Nam, organize a press competition and donate a printing complex to the Vietnamese people on this occasion. It has also issued invitations to patriotic journalists of Laos and Cambodia to the 7th Congress of the IOJ.

Thus, IOJ once again expressed its firm support of the South Vietnamese and other Indochinese peoples against US aggression, and displayed a high spirit of internationalism. Its resolutions constituted a great political inspiration for Vietnamese, Cambodian and Lao progressive press. Under the hard conditions of the war, the South Viet Nam patriotic journalists are greatly stimulated by the moral and material assistance of the progressive journalists in the world which enable them to do their bits in the struggle of the South Vietnamese people.

In its capacity as a member of the South Viet Nam Patriotic and Democratic Journalists' Association, "*South Viet Nam in Struggle*" sincerely thanks IOJ and all the progressive journalists in the world for their magnanimous gesture.

Demonstration by Frenchmen and Frenchwomen in support of Vietnamese people

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